

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Steering Group on Monitoring Strategic Arms Limitations

ACIS-1679/85
20 December 1985

MEMORANDUM: Chairman, Senior Arms Control Group

FROM:
DCI Representative

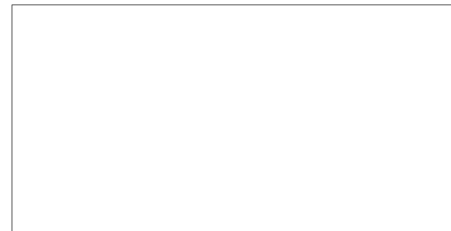
SUBJECT: Nuclear Testing Limitations (U)

1. This memorandum is in response to your request at the SACG meeting on 18 December for comments on the nuclear testing limitations options paper. (S)

2. On behalf of the DCI, I have no view on the desirability from a policy standpoint of either alternative A or B. As I noted at the meeting, both require additional work to be done in the verification area. In my view, the substantive work in this field has been dormant for a number of years. The resource implications of the work associated with alternative B are moderate in size (i e., a few specially trained people). Such resources are substantial in comparison to what we have available now and the lengthy period of time required to find and hire such people. (S/NF)

3. In a broader sense, I think it important to understand that there is questionable value involved in pursuing any alteration in the US position on nuclear testing (whether we think the Soviets would go along with it or not), without a solid understanding of the verification implications thereof. (S/NF)

4. If there is anything more I can do for you here, please call. (U)



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